



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.3447 | FAX (517) 373.5849
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/birkholz/

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Contact: Amanda Price
517-373-3447

Sen. Birkholz named legislator of the year

Lansing – Sen. Patty Birkholz (R-Saugatuck Twp) was awarded 2003 Legislator of the Year by the Michigan Recreation and Park Association during a ceremony this week.

The award was presented to Birkholz for her “valuable and distinguished service in advocating and supporting parks and recreation” during the association’s annual convention and tradeshow on Jan. 19 at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids.

“I am honored to be considered for and presented with this important award,” Birkholz said. “As chair of the environmental affairs committee, I understand the significance of parks and recreation for Michigan’s citizens and the positive impact legislation plays in keeping our parks clean and safe for everyone to use.”

Birkholz was the only legislator recognized during this year’s ceremony. According to the association, Birkholz was honored as a longtime advocate for parks and recreation.

Birkholz was also recognized for her service as past chair of the Michigan State Parks Advisory Board and for her service as a gubernatorial appointment to the Foundation for Michigan State Parks.

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